on locomotives in service. The detailed reply on various issues mentioned in the Report will be sent to Comptroller & Auditor General's (C&AG) in due course.

Norms for Transfer of Staff Working in Railway Reservation Offices

3494. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some rules exist to keep staff of all categories working in reservation offices on rotational transfer, being sensitive posting;

(b) if so, the details thereof with duration of such posting;

(c) whether some of staff of all cadres working in Reservation offices at Delhi Main, I.R.C.A., New Delhi Station, Sarai Rohilla, Sarojini Nagar, Kirti Nagar, Nizammuddin, Azadpur, Parliament House and Rail Bhawan have completed their prescribed tenure;

(d) if so, the reasons for not transferring them so far;

(e) whether Government propose to improve working of reservation office near Parliament House Reception; and

(f) if so, the number of counters to be reserved for persons authorised by MPs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) and (b) Staff holding sensitive posts and who frequently come in contact with public and or contractors/ suppliers, are required to be transferred every four years. The categories of Enquiry-cum-Reservation Clerk and Reservation Supervisor have been identified as sensitive categories.

(c) and (d) In the exigency of service, it is not always possible to transfer all those who have completed four years at a place, in one go. However, during January to May, 1998, 199 transfers have been ordered in Delhi area.

(c) Watch is kept on the working of the Reservation office near Parliament House Reception to ensure adequate & Satisfactory service.

(f) Two terminals are available in Parliament House Booking Office for providing reservation to persons authorised by MPs.

Direct BG Rail Line between Delhi and Kandla

3495. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a demand for direct rail link on BG line from Delhi to Kandla via Ajmer and Palanpur;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by Government thereon; and

(d) if no action has been taken so far, how Government propose to meet the demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) A direct broad gauge line already exists between Delhi and Kandla via Ajmer, Palanpur and Ahmedabad.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Safety of Passengers and Railway Property

3496. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether railways are responsible for safety of passengers and railway property;

(b) whether it is a fact that trains in South Central Railways have become unsafe in the last three years; and

(c) the steps proposed to increase vigilance in the trains in South Central Railways details thereof?